

Masahiro KISONO, S.N. 10/824,145  
Page 3

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Dkt. 2271/72197

Listing of Claims

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The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the subject application:

1. (currently amended) A network terminal apparatus connected to other network terminal apparatuses via a network, the network terminal apparatus comprising:

a ~~storing-unit~~ memory;

an acquiring unit that transmits a ~~settings request for acquiring~~ command requesting setting information to one of the other network terminal apparatuses, and receives the setting information from the one of the other network terminal apparatuses in response to said command;

a setting unit that sets the network terminal apparatus in accordance with the received setting information, and stores the received setting information in the ~~storing-unit~~ memory; and

a transmitting unit that retrieves the setting information from the ~~storing-unit~~ memory, in response to receipt of an acquisition request from another one of the other network terminal apparatuses, ~~[[for]]~~ requesting the setting information stored in the ~~storing-unit~~ memory, and transmits the retrieved setting information to said another one of the other network terminal apparatuses in response to said acquisition request.

2. (currently amended) The network terminal apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the ~~setting request~~ command from the acquiring unit specifies a designated item of the setting information, and the network terminal apparatus receives the designated item from said one of the other network terminal apparatuses.

Masahiro KISONO, S.N. 10/824,145  
Page 4

Dkt. 2271/72197

3. (currently amended) The network terminal apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein one of said other network terminal apparatuses is a setting information management server that manages the setting information of the network terminal apparatuses, and the network terminal apparatus acquires the setting information from ~~[[a]]~~ the setting information management server provided in the network, that manages the setting information of the network terminal apparatuses.

4. (currently amended) The network terminal apparatus as claimed in claim 3, wherein the network terminal apparatus repeats the ~~settings-request~~ command at predetermined intervals, for acquiring the setting information from the setting information management server.

5. (currently amended) The network terminal apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:  
a transforming unit that transforms the received setting information into format-adjusted setting information, if format of the received setting information does not match format of the network terminal apparatus;

wherein the setting unit sets the format-adjusted setting information to the network terminal apparatus and stores the format-adjusted setting information in the ~~setting-unit~~ memory.

6. (original) The network terminal apparatus as claimed in claim 5, wherein the transforming unit transforms the received setting information based on stylesheet that defines an attribute of each element of the setting information.

Masahiro KISONO, S.N. 10/824,145  
Page 5

Dkt. 2271/72197

7. (currently amended) A network terminal apparatus, comprising:

acquiring means for transmitting a ~~settings-request-for-acquiring~~ command requesting setting information to another network terminal apparatus connected via a network, and receiving the setting information from said another network terminal apparatus in response to said command;

setting means for setting the received setting information to the network terminal apparatus;

storing means for storing setting information that store the received setting information;

receiving means for receiving an acquisition request ~~for-acquiring~~ requesting the setting information stored in the storing means, from a third network terminal apparatus connected via the network; and

transmitting means for transmitting the setting information to said third network terminal apparatus in response to said acquisition request.

8. (currently amended) The network terminal apparatus as claimed in claim 7, wherein said ~~settings-request~~ command from the acquiring means indicates specific items designated by a user.

9. (original) The network terminal apparatus as claimed in claim 7, wherein

a setting information management server is provided in the network; and

the setting information is acquired from the setting information management server.

Masahiro KISONO, S.N. 10/824,145  
Page 6

Dkt. 2271/72197

10. (currently amended) The network terminal apparatus as claimed in claim 9, wherein the network terminal apparatus repeats the ~~settings-request~~ command at predetermined intervals, for acquiring the setting information from the setting information management server.

11. (previously presented) The network terminal apparatus as claimed in claim 7, further comprising:

transforming means for transforming the received setting information into format-adjusted setting information, if format of the received setting information does not match format of the network terminal apparatus;

wherein the setting means sets the format-adjusted setting information to the network terminal apparatus; and

the storing means stores the format-adjusted setting information therein.

12. (previously presented) The network terminal apparatus as claimed in claim 11, wherein the transforming means transforms the received setting information based on stylesheet that defines an attribute of each element of the setting information.

13. (currently amended) A method of sharing setting information between a network terminal apparatus and another network terminal apparatus connected via a network, the method comprising the steps of:

transmitting a ~~request for acquiring~~ command requesting setting information from said network terminal apparatus to said another network terminal apparatus;

receiving by said network terminal apparatus the setting information from said another

Masahiro KISONO, S.N. 10/824,145  
Page 7

Dkt. 2271/72197

network terminal apparatus;

setting the network terminal apparatus based on the received setting information;

storing the received setting information in the network terminal apparatus;

receiving by said network terminal apparatus a request for acquiring setting information from a third network terminal apparatus; and

transmitting the setting information from said network terminal apparatus to the third network terminal apparatus.

14. (currently amended) A network system, comprising:

a first network terminal apparatus; and

a second network terminal apparatus connected to the first network terminal apparatus via a network, the second network terminal apparatus storing setting information;

wherein the first network terminal apparatus transmits ~~an acquisition request~~ a command requesting the stored setting information, to the second network terminal apparatus, and the second network terminal apparatus retrieves and transmits the setting information stored therein to the first network terminal apparatus in response to ~~receipt of the acquisition request~~ the command from the first network terminal apparatus.

15. (previously presented) The network terminal apparatus of claim 1, wherein said setting information received by said network terminal apparatus from said one of the other network terminal apparatuses corresponds to the setting of said one of the other network terminal apparatuses

Masahiro KISONO, S.N. 10/824,145  
Page 8

Dkt. 2271/72197

16. (previously presented) The network terminal apparatus of claim 1, wherein said another one of the other network terminal apparatuses is set based on the setting information received by said another one of the other network terminal apparatuses from said network terminal apparatus.